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16 December 1977

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford University Medical Center
Stanford, CA 94305

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Many thanks for sending me the translation of D.E. Lebedev's article about your work in Priroda (1948).

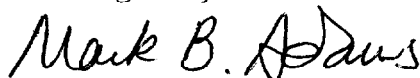
You inquire as to the current status of my book. At last word it is due to be published in a year next Spring.

Perhaps you could fill me in on some details I received in a letter from James Crow.

"Joshua Lederberg once told me that when he was in Stockholm to receive his Nobel Prize for the discovery of recombination in bacteria he met Tamm and Cerenkov who got the prize in physics the same year. I believe it was 1958. Lederberg said that the two physicists were amusing themselves in their hotel room by working on hypothetical codes that might serve as a genetic code. I was much impressed by the fact that, even though the biological community was debating Mendel's rules and the chromosome theory of heredity, the more sophisticated physicists were right up to the minute. My memory of what Lederberg told me is now quite vague and if it is something that you might want to use some time it would be better to get the information directly from him."

Anything you could tell me about this would be most appreciated.

Best regards,



Mark B. Adams
Bers Assistant Professor

MBA/c